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instituted. The fact was there was some extra revenues at the time, revenues above forecast which for...unfortunately we no longer have anymore, and the idea was to use that extra revenue to provide property tax relief, and to provide property tax relief plus to take the money off of the table as far as additional spending programs. A part of the program, I will remind you, at first there was a proposal that the Governor was going to write a check to each property taxpayer. We decided that wasn't practical, so community college property tax relief was an alternative, and that was the program. It was a three-year program. That was one part of it, the first year. The second part of it was community...direct payments to counties for property tax relief. And the third, finally, was the \$1.10 to \$1.00 property tax or a school levy drop. So it was a three-year program that included those three distinct components. It was never intended to be a permanent program. It was never intended to provide a complete takeover of community colleges by the state. So this is not a break of faith with the taxpayers. In fact, you can argue that the state has gone a couple further than what the original deal was. This program has been extended at least one year, I've got my...I don't know my timing exactly, but maybe two years longer than the original plan. Now the funding isn't available. It is entirely appropriate, in my view, to end the program as was originally envisioned. The lesson that may come out of this is that given this sort of reaction maybe it is not wise to address property tax policy by using extra funds at the state level for property tax relief. Maybe if you do that, you're going to get into trouble because people are going to expect that that program can last forever when it is clear that it can't last forever. So, again, I wouldn't go that route. I think that this probably was a good policy program, but it is also good policy now that when we have come to this point, to end the program. That's what this amendment would call for and I support the amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Kristensen, members of the Legislature, I just wanted to quickly respond to Senator Vrtiska. His point, as I understood it, was the effect of